(b) if so, whether in addition rolling stock with higher capacity is being inducted to improve throughput;

(c) whether Railways are going to plan induction of 250 diesel locomotives and 220 electric locomotives for the next year; and

(d) if so, to what extent Government has been able to obtain it and to what extent it has helped Railways to improve its functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways had planned to acquire 20,000 wagons during the year 2008-09.

(b) Order for higher capacity stainless steel wagons have already been placed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since higher carrying capacity Stainless Steel wagons are being manufactured for the first time, there were some initial teething problems which have adversely affected the wagon production. However, production of these wagons is expected to stabilize soon which would enable Railways to meet its' demand and also improve its' functioning.

Gauge conversion of Viramgam-Rajkot railway line

2146. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to convert Viramgam-Rajkot railway line into broad gauge;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the project; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There is no gauge conversion work in Viramgam-Rajkot railway line as this section is already a broad gauge line.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of DMIC

2147. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:
SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:
SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a proposal from the Government of Gujarat regarding rail development for various linkages for overall development of Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) along the proposed Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) of the Railways; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto and the present status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) As per information obtained from Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce